

Serial No. 09/924,044

RD-24899/USA-4

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Notice of Allowance received from the Examiner dated September 8, 2003. A new set of formal drawings as required by the Notice of Allowance is being filed under separate cover. The Examiner has previously approved the correction to the drawing. Additionally, the Applicants provide herein a listing of the claims, incorporating the Examiner's amendment.

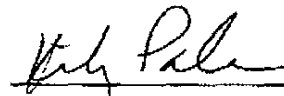
In reviewing the file, Applicants noticed that the PTO Form 1449 submitted by Applicants on August 7, 2001 was never acknowledged and returned to the Applicants. A copy of that form is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the art cited therein and return an acknowledged copy to the Applicants.

Applicants further note that the Examiner has not acknowledged Applicants' claim for domestic priority. This application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/467,565 filed December 20, 1999.

Applicants also note that an amendment was made to the title on December 19, 2002; and Applicants respectfully request that the amendment to the title be reflected in the Notice of Allowance.

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims as presented are allowable, and request prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance. In order to expedite the issuance of the application, should the Examiner have any questions, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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